

Appln No. 10/611,353
Reply to Office Action of December 28, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated June 3, 2004, has been reviewed and the comments carefully considered.

In the Office action, various issues and questions are raised concerning the description of the variety. By the amendments in the accompanying Substitute Specification, Applicant has made a bona fide effort to address all issues and questions.

In view of the foregoing amendment and response, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and, accordingly, reconsideration and allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any questions remain regarding the allowability of the application, Applicant would appreciate if the Examiner would advise the undersigned by telephone.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any charge or credit to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By Cynthia A. Bonner
Cynthia A. Bonner
Reg. No. 44,548
626/795-9900

CAB/tt

TXT IRV1083787.1*-03/24/05 8:35 AM

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

~~CINERARIA~~ SENECIO PLANT NAMED 'SUNSENERABU'

BOTANICAL/~~COMMERCIAL~~ CLASSIFICATION

Senecio cruentus x *Senecio heritieri*.

VARIETAL DENOMINATION

5 cv. 'Sunsenerabu'

BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety of *Senecio* genus plant named 'Sunsenerabu'.

10 'Sunsenerabu' is a distinct and unique variety, ~~which is a~~
dome-shaped plant ~~of height~~ with abundant branching, light
violet inflorescences, and a long blooming term.15 There are many varieties of *Senecio cruentus* cultivated
in the world, including varieties with inflorescences of a
single color of white, pink, red, blue or violet. Some
varieties have marginal variegation with off color parts.20 The female parent used in the crossing of 'Sunsenerabu'
is a clone of our own breeding line, *Senecio cruentus*, '8S-
84e' (not patented in the United States), which is a compact,
dome-shaped plant, approximately 16 cm in height. The stems
are thick, approximately 8.0 mm in diameter, with no
anthocyanin coloration. The leaf is in a serrated heart form
with moderate yellow green coloration. The leaf size is
medium, approximately 12.0 cm long, and approximately 12.5 cm
wide. The ~~inflorescence~~ capitulum is single flowered and has
25 white ray florets with white disc florets having no marginal
variegation. '8S-84e' has some scent.30 The pollen parent used in the crossing of 'Sunsenerabu'
is our breeding line, *Senecio heritieri* (an unnamed plant; not
patented or sold in the United States), which was first
introduced from England. *Senecio heritieri* is a high, dome-
shaped plant, approximately 26 cm in height with abundant
branching. Stems are approximately 5.1 mm in diameter, with
no anthocyanin coloration. The leaf is in a serrated heart

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

form and light yellowish green in coloration. The leaf size is small, approximately 5.5 cm long and approximately 6.3 cm wide. The ~~inflorescence~~capitulum is single flowered, having strong purple ray florets with vague white parts and strong reddish purple ~~disk~~disc florets. *Senecio heritieri* has no scent.

~~Progress~~

The controlled crossing of a plant of *Senecio cruentus* '8S-84e' and a plant of *Senecio heritieri* (unnamed) was conducted at Omori-cho, Yokaichi-shi, Shiga, Japan in February, 1999. Seedlings from this crossing have been grown since September, 1999. Four strains were selected in January 2000 in view of flower color and earliness of bloom. After multiplication by tissue culture, the botanical characteristics of the selected new strains were tested in pots starting in September 2000, using the ~~parent~~ varieties[[,]] 'Sunsenebu' (U.S. Plant Patent Number 12104, issued 25 September 2001), and 'Miss Yokohama' (not patented in the United States) for comparison.

One seedling was propagated by a cutting at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan. The new variety reproduces true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction. This new variety of *Senecio* plant was named 'Sunsenerabu' (*Senecio cruentus* x *Senecio heritieri*).

The parent plants, *Senecio cruentus*, '8S-84e', and *Senecio heritieri* (unnamed), are presently maintained at Shiga-ken, Japan.

In the following descriptions, the color-coding is in accordance with the Horticultural Colour Chart of the Royal Horticultural Society, London, England (R.H.S).

The botanical characteristics of the female parent plant *Senecio cruentus*, '8S-84e', used in the crossing of 'Sunsenerabu' are as follows.

Plant:

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

Growth habit - Dwarf compact

Height - Approximately 16 cm

Stem:

Thickness - Approximately 8.0 mm

5 Color - Moderate yellowish green (Near R.H.S. 139C)

Anthocyanin coloration - Absent

Branching - Fair

Pubescence - Sparse

10 ~~Length of third internode below flag leaf~~ Internode length
at the middle of main stem - Approximately 0.5 cm

Leaf:

Whole shape - Heart form with a swollen basal part, which is notched where the basal part of the blade attaches to the petiole.

15 Depth of concavity of leaf margin - Medium

Type of convexity - Acute

Apex shape - Obtuse

Base shape - Cordate

Degree of Undulation - Fair

20 Length - Approximately 12.0 cm

Width - Approximately 12.5 cm

Diameter of petiole - Approximately 5.0 mm

Length of petiole - Approximately 5.5 cm

25 Color of upper surface - Moderate yellow green (Near
R.H.S. 137C)Color of reverse surface - Grayish yellow green (Near
R.H.S. 138B)

Anthocyanin coloration of reverse surface - Absent

Pubescence of upper surface - Present

30 Pubescence of reverse surface - Dense

Color of pubescence of reverse surface - White

~~Flower (Single flowered)~~ Flower cluster (Gathering of corymbs):

Shape of flower cluster - Flat

Diameter of flower cluster - Approximately 20 cm

35 Height of flower cluster - Approximately 8 cm

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

Capitula:

Transected shape of ~~corolla~~capitula - Flat

Diameter of ~~flower~~capitula - Approximately 5.5 cm

5 ~~Size~~Diameter of ~~entire disk~~disc flower - Approximately 1.2 cm

Color of ~~petal~~ray florets - White (Near R.H.S. 155D)

Marginal variegation - Absent

Color of ~~disk~~disc flowerflorets - White (Near R.H.S. 155D)

10 ~~Petal~~Ray floret length - Approximately 2.1 cm

~~Petal~~Ray floret width - Approximately 1.0 cm

Shape of ~~Petal~~ray florets - Elliptical

Lengthwise warp of ~~petal~~ray florets - Flat

Concavity of ~~petal~~ray florets tip - Present

15 Shape of ~~petal~~ray floret tip - Rounded

Number of ray ~~flower~~florets - Approximately 13

Number of ~~disk~~disc flowerflorets - Approximately 105

Diameter of pedicel of the first ~~flower~~capitulum - Approximately 1.6 mm

20 Length of pedicel of the first ~~flower~~capitulum - Approximately 2.4 cm

Number of ~~flower~~capitula per [[a]] flower cluster - Approximately 75

Scent - Present

25 ~~Calyx~~Phyllaries:

~~Degree of concavity~~ - Flat

~~Degree of recurvature~~Length - Approximately 2.2 mm

Color - Moderate yellow green (Near R.H.S. 139C)

Anthocyanin coloration - Absent

30 Pistil:

Color - Light yellow (Near R.H.S. 11B)

Number - 1

35 Type - Style branches truncate (i.e., the top of the style is separated into two and the shape of the top is truncated)

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

Stamen:

Color - Brilliant yellow (Near R.H.S. 12B)

Type - 5 anthers are connate, with separated filaments

Blooming period - January (Sowing in August)

5 Hardiness:

Cold - Good

Rain - Good

Heat - Good

Resistance:

10 Disease - Good

Insect - Good

The botanical characteristics of the male parent plant *Senecio heritierii* used in the crossing of 'Sunsenerabu' are as follows.

15 Plant:

Growth habit - Dwarf compact

Height - Approximately 26 cm

Stem:

Thickness - Approximately 5.1 mm

20 Color - Very pale green (Near R.H.S. 128D)

Anthocyanin coloration - Absent

Branching - Abundant

Type of primary lateral shoot - Branch from every node

Pubescence - Dense

25 ~~Length of third internode below flag leaf~~ Internode length at the middle of main stem - Approximately 0.8 cm

Leaf:

Whole shape - Heart form with a swollen basal part, which is notched where the basal part of the blade attaches to the petiole.

30

Depth of concavity of leaf margin - Medium

Type of convexity - Acute

Apex shape - Obtuse

Base shape - Cordate

35

Degree of Undulation - Weak

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

- Length - Approximately 5.5 cm
Width - Approximately 6.3 cm
Diameter of petiole - Approximately 4.2 mm
Length of petiole - Approximately 7.5 cm
- 5 Color of upper surface - Light yellowish green (near R.H.S. 136D)
Color of reverse surface - Very pale green (near R.H.S.128D)
Anthocyanin coloration of reverse surface - Absent
- 10 Pubescence of upper surface - Dense
Pubescence of reverse surface - Dense
Color of pubescence of reverse surface - White
- Flower cluster (Gathering of corymbs~~(Single flowered)~~):
Shape of flower cluster - Uneven
- 15 Diameter of flower cluster - Approximately 18 cm
Height of flower cluster - Approximately 15 cm
- Capitula:
Transected shape of ~~corolla~~capitula - Flat
Diameter of ~~flower~~capitula - Approximately 4.8 cm
- 20 ~~Size~~Diameter of entire diskdisc flower - Approximately 0.9 cm
Color of ~~petalray~~florets - Strong purple (near R.H.S.81B)
Marginal variegation - Present
- 25 Diameter of off color part - Approximately 1.3 cm
Border of marginal variegation - Vague
Color of ~~diskdisc flower~~florets - Strong reddish purple (Near R.H.S. No.72A)
- 30 ~~PetalRay~~floret length - Approximately 2.2 cm
~~PetalRay~~floret width - Approximately 0.4 cm
Shape of ~~Petalray~~florets - Rectangular
Lengthwise warp of ~~petalray~~florets - Flat
Concavity of ~~petalray~~floret tip - Present
Shape of ~~petalray~~floret tip - Acute
- 35 Number of ray ~~flower~~florets - Approximately 13

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

- Number of ~~disk~~disc ~~flower~~florets - Approximately 110
Diameter of pedicel of the first ~~flower~~capitulum -
Approximately 1.2 mm
Length of pedicel of the first ~~flower~~capitulum -
5 Approximately 2.5 cm
Number of ~~flowers~~capitula per ~~flower cluster~~plant -
Approximately 35
Scent - Absent
~~Calyx~~Phyllaries:
10 ~~Degree of concavity~~ - Flat
~~Length~~Degree of recurvature - Approximately 3.1 mm
Color - Very pale green (Near R.H.S. 128D)
Anthocyanin coloration - Present
Pistil:
15 Color - Strong reddish purple (Near R.H.S. 72A)
Number - 1
Type - Style branches truncate (i.e., the top of the
style is separated into two and the shape of the top is
truncated)
20 Stamen:
Color - Strong reddish purple (Near R.H.S. 72A)
Type - 5 anthers are connate, with separated filaments
Blooming period - End of January (Sowing in August)
Hardiness:
25 Cold - Good
Rain - Good
Heat - Good
Resistance:
Disease - Good
30 Insect - Good
The botanical characteristics of ~~[[a]]~~ similar variety
'Sunsenebu' (*Senecio cruentus* x *Senecio heritieri*) ~~which was~~
~~patented in the United States~~, used ~~for examination~~ as a
comparison variety, are as follows.
35 Plant:

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

Growth habit - Semi- erect

Height - Approximately 33 cm

Stem:

Thickness - Approximately 4.5 mm

5 Color - Very pale green (Near R.H.S. 147C)

Anthocyanin coloration - Present; unevenly

Degree of anthocyanin coloration - Light

Branching - Abundant, i.e., approximately 9 to 11
branches

10 Type of primary lateral shoot - Branch from every node

Pubescence - Sparse

~~Length of third internode below flag leaf~~ Internode length
at the middle of main stem - approximately 1.4 cm

Leaf:

15 Whole shape - Heart form with a swollen basal part, which
is notched where the leaf attaches to the petiole.Depth of concavity of leaf margin - Approximately 7 mm on
average.

Type of convexity - Acute

20 Apex shape - Acute

Base shape - Cordate

Degree of Undulation - Weak

Length - Approximately 6.7 cm

Width - Approximately 8.0 cm

25 Diameter of petiole - Approximately 3.1 mm

Length of petiole - Approximately 7.4 cm

Color of upper surface - Moderate yellow green (Near
R.H.S. 137C)30 Color of reverse surface - Moderate yellow green (Near
R.H.S. 138C)

Anthocyanin coloration of reverse surface - Present

Degree of antocyanin coloration - Light

Pubescence of upper surface - Dense

Pubescence of reverse surface - Dense

35 Color of pubescence of reverse surface - White

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

Flower cluster (~~Gather of corymbs~~~~(Single flowered)~~):

Shape of flower cluster - Uneven

Diameter of flower cluster - Approximately 36 cm

Height of flower cluster - Approximately 18 cm

5 Capitula:Transected shape of ~~corolla~~capitula - FlatDiameter of ~~flower~~capitula - Approximately 7.7 cm~~Size~~Diameter of ~~entire disk~~disc flower - Approximately 1.3 cm10 Color of ~~petal~~ray florets - Vivid violet (Near R.H.S. 89C)

Marginal variegation - Absent

Color of ~~disk~~disc ~~flower~~florets - Deep violet (Near R.H.S. 93A)15 ~~Petal~~Ray floret length - Approximately 3.2 cm~~Petal~~Ray floret width - Approximately 0.8 cmShape of ~~petal~~ray floret - RectangularLengthwise warp of ~~petal~~ray floret - FlatConcavity of ~~petal~~ray floret tip - Present20 Shape of ~~petal~~ray floret tip - AcuteNumber of ray ~~flower~~floret - Approximately 13-15Number of ~~disk~~disc ~~flower~~floret - Approximately 135Diameter of pedicel of the first ~~flower~~capitulum - Approximately 1.0 mm25 Length of pedicel of the first ~~flower~~capitulum - Approximately 5.5 cmNumber of ~~flower~~capitula per [[a]] flower cluster - Approximately 65

Scent - Present

30 ~~Calyx~~Phyllaries:~~Degree of concavity~~ - Moderate~~Degree of recurvature~~Length - Approximately 1.0 mm

Color - Very pale green (Near R.H.S. 130D)

Anthocyanin coloration - Present

35 Pistil:

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

Color - Deep violet (Near R.H.S. 93A)

Number - 1

5 Type - Style branches truncate (i.e., the top of the style is separated into two and the shape of the top is truncated)

Stamen:

Color - Deep violet (Near R.H.S. 93A)

Type - 5 anthers are connate, with separated filaments

10 Blooming period - Start at the beginning of December (cutting in July)

Hardiness:

Cold - Good

Rain - Good

Heat - Good

15 Resistance:

Disease - Good

Insect - Good

20 The botanical characteristics of [[a]] similar variety 'Miss Yokohama', used ~~for examination~~ as a comparison variety, are as follows.

Plant:

Growth habit - Dwarf compact

Height - Approximately 19 cm

Stem:

25 Thickness - Approximately 5.4 mm

Color - Moderate yellow green (Near R.H.S. 139C)

Anthocyanin coloration - Present

Degree of anthocyanin coloration - Medium

Branching - Fair

30 Pubescence - Dense

~~Length of third internode below flag leaf~~ Internode length at the middle of main stem - Approximately 0.5 cm

Leaf:

35 Whole shape - Heart form with a swollen basal part, which is notched where the basal part of the leaf attaches to the

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

petiole.

- Depth of concavity of leaf margin - Medium
Type of convexity - Acute
Size of wing (swollen basal part) - Large
5 Apex shape - Obtuse
Base shape - Cordate
Degree of Undulation - Weak
Length - Approximately 17.5 cm
Width - Approximately 13.0 cm
10 Diameter of petiole - Approximately 5.2 mm
Length of petiole - Approximately 7.7 cm
Color of upper surface - Moderate yellow green (Near R.H.S. 137C)
Color of reverse surface - Moderate yellow green (Near
15 R.H.S. 138C)
Anthocyanin coloration of reverse surface - Present
Degree of anthocyanin coloration - Medium
Pubescence of upper surface - Dense
Pubescence of reverse surface - Dense
20 Color of pubescence of reverse surface - White
Flower cluster (Gathering of corymbs~~(Single flowered)~~):
Shape of flower cluster - Rounded
Diameter of flower cluster - Approximately 23 cm
Height of flower cluster - Approximately 17 cm
25 Capitula:
Transected shape of ~~corolla~~capitula - Flat
Diameter of ~~flower~~capitula - Approximately 4.2 cm
~~Size~~Diameter of entire disk~~disc~~ flower - Approximately
1.1 cm
30 Color of ~~petal~~ray floret - Vivid violet (Near R.H.S. 96A)
Marginal variegation - Present
Diameter of off color part - Approximately 2.5 cm
Border of marginal variegation - Fairly clear
Color of ~~disk~~disc ~~flower~~floret - Deep violet (Near R.H.S.
35 93A)

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

- ~~PetalRay~~ floret length - Approximately 1.6 cm
~~PetalRay~~ floret width - Approximately 0.8 cm
Shape of ~~petalray~~ floret - Generally rectangular
Lengthwise warp of ~~petalray~~ floret - Convex
5 Concavity of ~~petalray~~ floret tip - Present
Shape of ~~petalray~~ floret tip - Rounded
Number of ray ~~flower~~ floret - Approximately 13
Number of ~~disk~~ disc ~~flower~~ floret - Approximately 86
Diameter of pedicel of the first ~~flower~~ capitulum -
10 Approximately 1.7 mm
Length of pedicel of the first ~~flower~~ capitulum -
Approximately 2.7 cm
Number of ~~flowers~~ capitula per [[a]] ~~flower~~ cluster ~~plant~~ -
Approximately 90
15 Scent - Present
~~Calyx~~ Phyllaries:
~~Degree of concavity~~ - Flat
~~Degree of recurvature~~ Length - Approximately 1.2 mm
Color - Very pale green (Near R.H.S. 130D)
20 Anthocyanin coloration - Absent
Pistil:
Color - Deep violet (Near R.H.S. 93A)
Number - 1
Type - Style branches truncate (i.e., the top of the
25 style is separated into two and the shape of the top is
truncated)
Stamen:
Color - Deep violet (Near R.H.S. 93A)
Type - 5 anthers are connate, with separated filaments
30 Blooming period - January (Sowing in August)
Hardiness:
Cold - Good
Rain - Good
Heat - Good
35 Resistance:

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

Disease - Good

Insect - Good

SUMMARY OF THE NEW VARIETY

5 'Sunsenerabu' is a dome-shaped plant with an approximate
~~of height (average height approximately of~~ 39.5 cm in the
blooming period[[]]. There is a branch from every node and
branching is abundant, i.e., approximately 9 to 11 branches.
The stem is approximately 4.9 mm in diameter with ~~few~~light
pubescence[[s]].

10 The leaves are small, approximately 7.6 cm long[[,]] and
approximately 9.2 cm wide. The leaves are shaped in a
serrated heart form with a swollen basal part, which is
notched where the basal part of the blade attaches to the
petiole. The leaf color is strong yellow green, with no
15 anthocyanin coloration on the reverse side. Pubescence on
upper side of leaf is sparse and pubescence on the reverse
side is dense. The petiole is approximately 9.2 cm long and
approximately 3.2 mm in diameter.

20 The new variety has large ~~inflorescence~~flower clusters,
which are high and flat in shape (i.e., ~~the locations of the~~
individual ~~inflorescence~~capitula forming the cluster are
flat). ~~An inflorescence~~ flower cluster means a gathering of
~~heads~~capitula in a plant ~~of the new variety~~. ~~A head is an~~
~~inflorescence consisting of disc florets and a plurality of~~
25 ~~ray florets~~. The ~~inflorescence~~capitulum is single flowered
with marginal variegation, which has obscure border. The
~~corolla~~capitulum has a flat transected shape (i.e., when the
~~corolla~~capitulum opens, ray florets are flat when viewed from
the side). The ~~inflorescence~~capitulum is approximately 7.4 cm
30 in diameter, while the entire disc floret is approximately 1.3
cm in diameter. The ray floret is approximately 3.0 cm long
and approximately 0.8 cm wide. The color of the ray floret is
light violet (near R.H.S. 91A), while the color of the disc
florets are violet (near R.H.S. 90B). One

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

~~inflorescence~~capitulum has approximately 13 ray florets and approximately 149 disc florets. A ray floret has a pistil, but no stamen. A disc floret is tubular and has a pistil and a stamen formed by 5 connate anthers with separated filaments. There are a[[A]]pproximately 180 ~~inflorescence~~capitula per ~~are in a inflorescence cluster~~plant. The ~~length~~degree of recurvature of calyx~~the~~ phyllary is approximately 2.0 mm. The ~~calyx~~phyllary is flat and has no anthocyanin coloration. The ~~p[[P]]edicel~~ is approximately 3.5 cm long and approximately 1.3 mm in diameter. The ~~inflorescence~~capitula have some scent.

~~Blooming period is medium and blooming term is long.~~ After cutting in July, ~~inflorescences start to bloom~~the new variety 'Sunsenerabu' flowers at the end of the January in Omori-cho, Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan. The blooming continues from January to May, if under appropriate control. ~~Around~~At a temperature around[[of]] 15°C, the individual bloom lasts two weeks. The ~~inflorescence~~flower buds grow one after another from the axil. The ~~inflorescence~~flower is not self-cleaning because ray florets remain attached in a wilted and dry state as they ~~inflorescence~~fully matures.

The new variety has moderate cold ~~hardiness~~and resistance to heat tolerance. The new variety does not die at around 0°C, but when frost occurs the cells can be necrosed resulting in the death of the plant. Usually, *Senecio cruentus* has a tendency of slightly reduced growth in a hot season, whereas the new variety has no problem ~~in~~growing in the hot season.

The fertility of the new variety is low. Generally, *Senecio* ~~genus~~plants have high fertility (i.e., bear many seeds per flower). In contrast, 'Sunsenerabu' bears no seed or very few seeds per ~~inflorescence~~capitulum. When no seed is formed, there is a part corresponding to a seed coat, which remains in an immature state, i.e., without embryo and ~~endosperm inside the immature seed coat~~.

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

The new variety, 'Sunsenerabu', differs from similar 'Sececio' varieties[[,]] 'Sunsenebu' and 'Miss Yokohama', ~~of the Senecio genus varieties~~ and from the parental varieties *Senecio heritieri* (unnamed) and '8S-84e' in the following points.

1. 'Sunsenerabu' is taller than a high type plant, approximately 39.5 cm in height. ~~'Sunsenebu' is a high type plant, approximately 33 cm in height. 'Miss Yokohama', is a compact type plant, approximately 19 cm in height. The pollen parent Senecio heritieri (pollen parent) and is a semi compact type plant, approximately 26 cm in height and female plant '8S-84e' is a compact type plant, approximately 16 cm in height.~~

2. The ~~inflorescence~~ capitulum of 'Sunsenerabu' has light violet ray florets, strong violet disc florets and obscure marginal variegation. 'Sunsenebu' has vivid violet ray florets, deep violet disc florets and no marginal variegation. 'Miss Yokohama' has vivid violet ray florets, vivid violet ~~disk~~ disc florets and no marginal variegation. The female parent '8S-84e' has white ray florets, white disc florets and no marginal variegation. The pollen parent *Senecio heritieri* (unnamed) has strong purple ray florets, strong reddish purple ~~disk~~ disc florets and white marginal part.

3. The petiole length of 'Sunsenerabu' is longer than that of 'Sunsenebu' or 'Miss Yokohama'.

4. 'Sunsenerabu' has less stem pubescence ~~of stems~~ than that of 'Miss Yokohama'.

5. The blooming ~~term~~ period of 'Sunsenerabu' is longer than that of 'Miss Yokohama'.

6. The fertility of 'Sunsenerabu' is lower than that of 'Miss Yokohama'.

The plant height and flower color are the most distinctive characteristics of this new variety, 'Sunsenerabu'.

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig.1 is a photograph giving a partial view of the new variety of *Senecio* ~~genus~~-plant named 'Sunsenerabu' planted in a pot.

5 Fig.2 is a photograph of ~~inflorescences~~capitula of the new variety of *Senecio* ~~genus~~-plant named 'Sunsenerabu'.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

10 The botanical characteristics of the new and distinct variety of *Senecio* plant named 'Sunsenerabu' are set forth hereafter. The plants were observed during January 2002 at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, planted in 15 cm diameter pots, at an age of approximately 6 months.

Plant:

15 Growth habit - Semi-dwarf erect
Height - Approximately 39.5 cm
Spread - Approximately 45.0 cm
Main stem length - Approximately 38.0 cm
Lateral branches length - Approximately 20 cm

Stem:

20 Thickness - Approximately 4.9 mm
Color - Light yellow green (near R.H.S. 144D)
Anthocyanin coloration - Absent
Branching - Abundant, i.e., approximately 9 to 11 branches

25 Type of primary lateral shoot - Branch from every node
Pubescence - Sparse
Internode length at the middle of main stem -
Approximately 2.1 cm

Leaf:

30 Whole shape - Heart form with a swollen basal part, which is notched where the basal part of the blade attaches to the petiole.

Depth of concavity of leaf margin - The maximum depth of concavity measured from the average convexity peak height is

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

approximately 5 mm.

Type of convexity - Acute

Apex shape - Acute

Base shape - Cordate

5 Leaf margin - Palmately lobed, crenate and weakly undulated

Length - Approximately 7.6 cm

Width - Approximately 9.2 cm

Diameter of petiole - Approximately 3.2 mm

10 Length of petiole - Approximately 9.2 cm

Color of petiole - Near R.H.S. 144D

Color of upper surface - Strong yellow green (near R.H.S.144A)

15 Color of reverse surface - Moderate yellow green (near R.H.S. 138C)

Anthocyanin coloration of reverse surface - Absent

Pubescence of upper surface - Sparse

Pubescence of reverse surface - Dense

Color of pubescence of reverse surface - White

20 Venation - Pattern Palmate; color near R.H.S. 136D

Stipules - None

~~Inflorescence~~ (Single flowered Flower cluster (Gathering or corymbs) :

Shape of ~~inflorescence~~ flower cluster - Flat

25 Diameter of ~~inflorescence~~ flower cluster - Approximately 45 cm

Height of ~~inflorescence~~ flower cluster - Approximately 17 cm

Capitula:

30 Transected shape of ~~corolla~~ capitula - Flat

Diameter of ~~inflorescence~~ capitula - Approximately 7.4 cm

~~Size~~ Diameter of entire disc floret capitula - Approximately 1.3 cm

~~Disc~~ Disc floret:

35 Shape - Tubular, trumpet shape

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

- Color (both surfaces) - Near R.H.S. N88B to 92C
- Length - Approximately 8.5 mm
- Diameter - Approximately 2.5 mm
- Margin - 5 lobed, star shape
- 5 Petal apex - Acute
- Petal base - Fused
- Number of disc florets per capitulum - approximately 149
- 10 Color of ray floret (upper surface) - Near R.H.S. 91A
- Color of ray floret (lower surface) - Near R.H.S. 91D
- Marginal variegation - Present
- Size of marginal variegation - Approximately 1.7 cm
- Border of marginal variegation - Obscure
- ~~Color of disc floret - Strong violet (near R.H.S. 90B)~~
- 15 Ray floret length - Approximately 3.0 cm
- Ray floret width - Approximately 0.8 cm
- Shape of ray floret - Rectangular
- Lengthwise warp of ray floret - Flat
- Concavity of ray florets tip - Present
- Shape of ray floret tip - Acute
- 20 Number of ray florets - Approximately 13
- ~~Number of disc floret - Approximately 149~~
- Diameter of pedicel of the first inflorescence capitulum - Approximately 1.3 mm
- 25 Length of pedicel of the first inflorescence capitulum - Approximately 3.5 cm
- Pedicel color - Near R.H.S. 144D
- Number of flower capitula per plant - Approximately 180
- 30 Ray floret margin - Entire
- Ray floret base shape - Obtuse
- Ray floret texture - Smooth, velvety
- Scent - Present
- ~~Calyx -~~
- ~~Degree of concavity - Flat~~
- 35 ~~Degree of recurvature - Approximately 2.0 mm~~

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

~~Color - Strong yellow green (near R.H.S. 143A)~~~~Anthocyanin coloration - Absent~~Phyllaries:Shape - Lanceolate5 Apex - AcuteMargin - EntireBase - FusedLength - Approximately 2.0 mmWidth - Approximately 1.0 mm10 Color (both surfaces) - Near R.H.S. 143ANumber of Phyllaries - Approximately 14Pistil:

Color - Vivid purple (near R.H.S. 87A)

Number - 1 per ray and disc floret

15 Type - Style branches truncate (i.e., the top of the style is separated into two and the shape of the top is truncated)

Stamen:

Color - Dark greenish yellow (near R.H.S. 152D)

20 Type - ~~5 anthers are connate~~ Each disc floret has 5 connate anthers, with separated filaments

Amount of pollen - Scarce

Pollen color - Near R.H.S. 21A

25 Time to produce - Approximately 6 months (cutting in July, flower in the next January, in Japan)

Blooming period - Start at the end of January (cutting in July)

Number of inflorescences per lateral stem - Approximately 5

30 Flowering time - From January to early May

Bud

Hardiness - Susceptible to damage under 0°C

Diameter - Approximately 6 cm

Length - Approximately 4 cm

35 Shape - Globose

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

Surface - Pubescent

Color - Near R.H.S. 144D

Lastingness of an individual bloom on the plant -
approximately 10 days

5 Hardiness:

Cold - Good

Rain - Good

Heat - Good

Resistance:

10 Disease - Good

Insect - Good

The new variety and *Senecio cruentus* have similar resistance to powdery mildew, leaf spot, aphid, whitefly, and thrips. The new variety, 'Sunsenerabu', is a tall type plant and most suitable for flower potting.

15 This new and distinct variety of *Senecio* ~~genus~~ plant named 'Sunsenerabu' was asexually reproduced by cutting at Omori-cho, Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan and the homogeneity and stability thereof were confirmed.

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

CLAIM

A new and distinct variety of *Senecio* plant named
'Sunsenerabu', substantially as herein illustrated and
described.

Substitute Specification
(Marked up copy)

50630/CAB/A400

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed herein is a *Senecio* plant named
'Sunsenerabu'[[;]]_L being of a high height and dome-shaped
5 plant with abundant branching. Petiole length is longer than
in *Senecio* L. It has large inflorescence cluster.
~~Inflorescences~~Capitula are single flowered and have small
obscure marginal variegation. The color of the ray floret is
light violet and the color of the disc floret is strong
10 violet. Blooming term is longer than *Senecio cruentus*. Flower
buds grow one after another from axil.